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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

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Albanian Army

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1. The organization of the Communist Party in the Albanian Army is similar to the system of the civilian organizations of the Party, the only difference being in the fact that the soldiers do not have the right to express criticism during Party meetings or to exercise any check on the officers.
2. From the Ministry of War down to the smallest unit, the Army is organized in Party sections. The Political Directorate of the Army (Drejtoria Politike e Ushtore) at the head extends its influence through the Political Bureaus of the divisions, regiments and battalions, and directs all Communist organizations in the Army.
3. The Political Directorate of the Army is immediately connected with and subordinate to the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers (Communist) Party. The Director is General Hysni Kapo and the Deputy Director Colonel Beqir Hudu.
4. The Political Directorate of the Army is divided into the following sub-directorates:
 - a. Education (Men-Drejtoria Cultures)
 - b. Press and Propaganda (Men-Drejtoria Agitpropit)
 - c. Youth (Men-Drejtoria Minise)
 - d. Political Guidance (Men-Drejtoria Instruksionit)
 - e. Organization (Men-Drejtoria Organizimit)
 - f. Financial Administration
5. The same organization obtains in each Division, where there is the corresponding Political Section (Dega Politike e Divizionit), which includes the same subdivisions as indicated above. The divisional organization is under the Shef i Deges Politike (political responsible for the section). In addition to the divisional political section there is the Commissar, who exercises supreme supervision over the whole Party organization of the division down to the

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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company, the Commissars of the smaller units of the division being directly subordinate to him. The Commissars, chosen from men who are most trusted by the Party, are directly responsible to the Director of the Political Directorate of the Army, General Lysni Kapo.

6. Under the Political section of the division there is the corresponding section of the Regiment (Seksioni Politiki Regimentit) consisting of three sections, viz., the political office of the regiment, the office of press and propaganda, and the office of youth. This is directed by the Shef i Seksioneve Politike (political responsible for the regiment). In addition there is a Commissar subordinate to the Commissar of the Division. The duties and power of the Regimental Commissar are analogous to those of the Commissar of the Division, but on a smaller scale.
7. This organization does not exist in the battalion, where there is only a Commissar and one office (Dirore e Batalle - sic, probably Dyroja e Batalionit). The Company has a Political Instructor who is aided by a squad of soldiers, but there is no "office." The Political Instructor maintains surveillance of the company and of the platoons through trusted Communist soldiers placed in each squad.
8. The role of the Political Instructors in the military units lies in developing the political line on the basis of directives issued by the Political Directorate of the Army and in propaganda to the soldiers. For this purpose two hours daily of the training program are at the disposal of these political instructors. A more important function of the political instructors, however, is to maintain surveillance of everybody and everything, in closest cooperation with the Sigurimi of the Division, and as a result there is fear and terror among officers and men.
9. The Youth Organization is directed by corresponding sections of the political bureaus of the units. All soldiers between 20 and 25 years of age who so desire are enrolled in the Army's Youth Organization whether they belong to the Party or not.

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